

White County Board Meeting
Recessed September Meeting
November 28, 2005

Chairman Wooten called the recessed September Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on November 28, 2005 in the Courtroom of the White County Courthouse in the City of Carmi.

Clerk Dozier called the roll with Nelson, Ray, Mitchell, Trout and Wooten all present.

Chairman Wooten stated that the County had let for bid the liability insurance, auto liability, building and contents, inland marine and workman's compensation insurance. The bids were due by November 15 and Insurance Audit and Inspection the county's insurance consultants recommended that we renew with St Paul through First Insurance the liability insurance, building and contents, inland marine, auto liability in the amount of \$102,650.00. Mr. Wooten explained that in that bid it would increase the umbrella policy from one million to five million. Chairman Wooten stated that this is a savings of around \$9,000.00 from last year's premium even with the increase of the umbrella policy. Chairman Wooten explained that the only bid for workman's compensation was with the Illinois Public Risk Fund through First Insurance in the amount of \$53,055. Chairman Wooten stated that the workmen's compensation bid was around \$45,000.00 lower than last year. Chairman Wooten stated that the only other bid was from Governmental Inter Insurance Exchange and those bids did not meet the bid specifications. Chairman Wooten stated that even though this was a tremendous saving it does not help the County in this budget crisis because this insurance will be paid out of Tort and is not part of the general fund. However, it will be savings to the taxpayers because the tort levy will not have to be as high as it was last year. Mr. Ray made a motion to accept the bid of St. Paul and Illinois Public Risk Fund, seconded by Nelson. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next item was to consider the budget of White County, Egyptian Health Department, Coleman Tri-County Services and the Extension Council Services. Chairman Wooten stated that the budget committee worked non-stop to try and balance the budget. Chairman Wooten stated that the total budgeted expenditures for this year was \$6,791,915, which looks as if it is an increase from last year of \$820,630.00. Chairman Wooten stated that because of the new GASB 34 and the way the county has to prepare its budget, showing all bond, grants and reimbursement of health insurance the budget is actually \$40,000.00 less than last year. Chairman Wooten stated that the Board struggled to balance the budget simply because of the increase in natural gas, fuel and postage and health insurance. Chairman Wooten also stated that there could be a potential loss of around \$30,000 in revenue in 2006, because of ongoing litigation, which he was not a liberty to. Chairman Wooten stated in 2007 the County could lose as much as \$70,000 in revenue because of the change in farmland assessment. Chairman Wooten informed the Board that the revenue in this budget was \$4,414,950 and expenditures were \$4,012,635 and the budget was balanced by \$1,560.00. Mr. Trout made a motion to adopt the budget, seconded by Nelson. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten stated that the tax levy was the next item on the agenda and that the county was in compliance with truth and taxation. Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to adopt the tax levies for White County, Egyptian Health Department, Coleman Tri-County and the Extension Council Service. Motion seconded by Trout. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten asked the Board to adopt the following resolution of support for building the Futuregen Power Plant.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FUTURE GEN PROJECT TO BE LOCATED IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

WHEREAS, President Bush has proposed building a 275-megawatt prototype power plant with emissions equal to those of natural gas in 2003. The process will begin soon to select a site to build GEN power plant, known as FUTUREGEN; and

WHEREAS, White County believes Southern Illinois has all of the natural resources necessary to make the plant successful and has strong community support throughout Southern Illinois. The region is rich in high-sulfur coal reserves and the coal central at SIUC is located in Southern Illinois. Coal underlies 65 percent of the state's surface and the Illinois coal industry annually produces approximately 35 million tons of coal and generates more than \$1 billion in gross revenues; and

WHEREAS, Illinois has almost one-eighth of the coal reserves in the United States and one-quarter of the nation's bituminous coal reserves. Illinois' coal reserves contain more BTU's than the oil reserves of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait; and

WHEREAS, FUTUREGEN is a planned \$ 1 billion government and industry partnership project by the US Department of Energy to design and operate a nearly emission free coal-fired electric and hydrogen power plant; and

WHEREAS, all communities in Southern Illinois want to ensure the economic vitality of their respective communities and of the counties as a whole; and

WHEREAS, FUTUREGEN will provide construction jobs and permanent jobs; and

WHEREAS, the history of our communities and our residents, which once depended upon the economic stability of coal-mining jobs, has the opportunity to be dramatically impacted in the future by the new coal technologies planned for use at FUTUREGEN.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County of White in the State of Illinois strongly supports the FUTURE GENERATION project and believes that the FUTUREGEN plant should be built in Southern Illinois.

PASSED on this 28th day of November, 2005 and approved by its Chairman of White County Commissioners on this 28th day of November, 2005.

Ron Wooten, Chairman

ATTEST:

Paula Dozier, White County Clerk

Mr. Trout made a motion to adopt the resolution for the Futuregen Power Plant, seconded by Nelson. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next item on the agenda is to consider the appointment of Edward Newman as Commissioner to the Mill Shoals Drainage District #3 for a term that will expire on the first Tuesday of September, 2008. Mr. Nelson made a motion to appoint Edward Newman to Mill Shoals Drainage District #3, seconded by Ray. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten stated that we needed an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel in the Circuit Clerk's Office, County Treasurer, County Clerk's, State's Attorney's and Sheriff's Department. Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Trout. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Mr. Nelson made a motion to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mitchell. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten announced that the next meeting of the County Board would be held on December 13, 2005 in the Courtroom at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Trout made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mitchell. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.